

# Request for Virtual Participation in Early Market Engagement for Procurement of:

**Design, Supply and Installation: Modernization and upgrade of main grid substations**

**Employer:** JSC National Electric Grid of Uzbekistan

**Project / ID:** P171683 Electricity Sector Transformation and Resilient Transmission (ESTART)

**Contract title:** Modernization and upgrade of main grid substations: Gulcha 220/110/10 kV, “0” 220/110/35 kV, Gornaya 220/35/6 kV Daugiztau 220/35/6 kV

**Country:** Uzbekistan

**Loan No.:** IDA-69430, TF0B5804-UZ

1. The Republic of Uzbekistan has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Electricity Sector Transformation and Resilient Transmission (ESTART) Project, and intends to apply part of the proceeds toward payments under the Contract for Modernization and upgrade of main grid substations: **Gulcha 220/110/10 kV, “0” 220/110/35 kV, Gornaya 220/35/6 kV Daugiztau 220/35/6 kV**. For this contract, the Borrower shall process payments using the Letter of Credit disbursement method, as defined in the World Bank’s Disbursement Guidelines for Investment Project Financing, except for payments for Works, which are to be made through the Direct Payment method as would be provided in the contract.
2. Procurements for these packages will be conducted in accordance with the World bank’s [Procurement Regulations](#) (September 2025) and applicable [Standard Procurement Documents](#) using International Competitive Procurement (Single Stage: Two Envelope) process. The World Bank’s Anti-Corruption Guidelines will apply to the tenders, including the non-eligibility of firms that have been [debarred](#) by the World bank.
3. JSC National Electric Grid of Uzbekistan now invites interested firms operating in energy construction sector, to participate in Early Market Engagement (EME) for Contract for Modernization and upgrade of main grid substations: **Gulcha 220/110/10 kV, “0” 220/110/35 kV, Gornaya 220/35/6 kV Daugiztau 220/35/6 kV**. The goal of EME is to: (i) Communicate needs or requirements to interested firms; (ii) Openly and transparently discuss possible challenges and their proposed solutions; (iii) Consider cost/value impacts, benefits and risks of possible solutions; (iv) Test optimal risk allocation and incentives; (v) Stimulate innovation in the design and delivery of the solution; and (vi) Understand market capacity, capability and trends and accordingly adjust Scope, specification, Qualification Requirements and Evaluation Criteria etc.
4. As part of EME, interested suppliers are required to register for the event through below link and submit filled out questionnaire (please see below) through email to: i) ESTART Project at [pmu.modernization@gmail.com](mailto:pmu.modernization@gmail.com) latest by 23 February 2026. Please note that responses to the questions will be shared only internally with the project implementation team and will not be made public or available to your competitor companies.

Link for registration (deadline 23 February 2026):

<https://forms.gle/RY69ix8H6y3A6Lru9>

**On 25 February 2026 at 14:00 Tashkent time, ESTART Project - PIU will arrange virtual meeting as part of Industry Dialogue Forum;** before joining the virtual meeting through the link (The link will be shared by an email), please provide the filled-out questionnaire and register for Industry Dialogue Forum through the e-mail [pmu.modernization@gmail.com](mailto:pmu.modernization@gmail.com).

5. Draft tentative qualification requirements for potential bidders are as follows:

**General Experience:**

Experience in Power Transmission engineering under contracts in the role of contractor, subcontractor or management contractor for at least the last five (5) years starting 1st January 2020.

**Specific Experience:**

Participation as a contractor, joint venture member, management contractor, or subcontractor, in at least two (2) contracts within the last ten (10) years, each with a value of at least eighteen million four hundred thousand (18,400,000.00) USD, that have been successfully and substantially completed and that are similar to the proposed Plant and Installation Services. The similarity of the contracts shall be based on Design, supply, installation, modernization/rehabilitation testing, and commissioning of 220 kV or above substation.

For the above or other contracts executed within the last ten (10) years, a minimum experience in the following key activities:

1. Preparation of detailed engineering design for the modernization of at least one 220 kV (or above) substation.
2. Supply and installation of major Plant and Equipment: Autotransformer, instrument transformers, relay protection, and automation devices, circuit breaker, and disconnectors for 220 kV (or above) Substation.
3. Supply and installation of at least ten (10) transformer units rated at a minimum 220 kV and not less than 125 MVA each.
4. Design, Installation, and Commissioning of relay protection devices and secondary equipment & control cabinets for 220 kV (or above) substation for at least one (1) substation.
5. Design, Installation, and Commissioning for HF equipment and Emergency automation (220 kV and above) substations for at least one (1) substation.

**Financial Capabilities:**

Sound financial position and prospective long-term profitability for any three years (during the last five years 2020-2024).

Minimum average annual turnover in power sector engineering business of **USD 23,000,000.00** calculated as total certified payments received for contracts in progress or completed, within the best three (3) years out of the last five (5) (2021-2025).

Access to, or availability of, financial resources such as liquid assets, unencumbered real assets, lines of credit, and other financial means, other than any contractual advance payments to meet: (i) the following cash-flow requirement: **USD 4,600,000.00** and (ii) the overall cash flow requirements for this contract and its current commitments.

### **Experience in managing ES aspects**

Experience as prime contractor, joint venture member, or Subcontractor between 1st January 2019 and Application submission deadline, in managing ES risks and impacts in the following aspects:

1. Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts.
2. Labour and working Condition.
3. Bidding will be conducted through international competitive procurement using a Request for Bids (RFB) as specified in the World Bank's "Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers," Seventh Edition, September 2025 ("Procurement Regulations") and is open to all eligible Bidders as defined in the Procurement Regulations

### **Link to draft tentative RFB:**

<https://cloud.uzbekistonmetuz/index.php/s/nDNK4JtdkTkeWrC>

**The procurement process for Contract for Modernization and upgrade of main grid substations: Gulcha 220/110/10 kV, "0" 220/110/35 kV, Gornaya 220/35/6 kV Daugiztau 220/35/6 kV is expected to commence in June 2026.**

## **EME Questionnaire**

**Please note that responses to the questions will be shared only internally with the project implementation team and will not be made public or available to your competitor companies.**

<b>Question</b>	<b>Answer</b>
What is your company's official name?	
What is your company's official address?	
In which countries does your company operate and/or has branches?	
What is the profile of your company and how many years is your company in this profile business?	
What was the annual turnover of your company per year for the last 3 years <u>from contracts similar to the ones included in this EME?</u>	<p>Annual turnover from contracts similar to the contract:</p> <p>2023: XXXXX (USD / EUR / any other currency)</p> <p>2024: XXXXX (USD / EUR / any other currency)</p>

	2025: XXXXX (USD / EUR / any other currency)
<p>Please list the all the similar contracts with brief similar contract description and the contract price for each, and also indicate in which country the contract was implemented. In case your company was in Joint Venture (JV), or subcontracted by another company, in addition to the contracts price, please also indicate in % what was the share of your company from the contract price. Examples are:</p> <p>Contractor as Single Entity with contract price of XXXX [currency]; the contract included implementation of following main components in [country]: .....</p> <p>Contractor in JV with [please list other JV members] as [Lead or Member] with contract price of XXXX [currency]; with XX% share for our company; our part included implementation of following main components in [country]: .....</p> <p>Sub-contractor of [please indicate the name of Single Entity or all JV members (as applicable)] for a contract with contract price of XXXX [currency]; with XX% share for our company; our part included implementation of following main components in [country]: .....</p>	
Does your company have experience of contract implementation in CIS countries?	
<p>What is the cash-flow freely available to your company from financial resources such as liquid assets, unencumbered real assets, lines of credit, and other financial means, <u>other than any contractual advance payments received from any contracts</u>?</p> <p>While indicating the concrete amount your company has access to, or availability of cash, please also indicate whether this is your company's own cash or lines of credit from banks / financial institutions.</p>	

Please list all the main equipment that your company possesses or has access to, for implementation of the contract.	
Please list any barriers that may prevent your company from participating in the bidding for the contract.	
What supply chain risks, key risks or potential constraints does your company see in implementation of the contract, and what would be your mitigation measures for such risks / constraints?	<p>Following are the supply chain risks, key risks or potential constraints that we see in implementation of:</p> <p>We would propose following mitigation measures:</p>
Is the implementation timeline included in the Employer's Requirement (Scope of Works) realistic for the contract? If not, what would be the realistic implementation timeline from your company's perspective.	
What would be the optimum advance payment amount in % for the contract?	
<p>What would be strongest areas of your bid in terms of proposed innovations and sustainability for the contract?</p> <p>Please elaborate as much as needed and include any other parameters, bearing in mind that the parameters shall be proven with third party lab and shall also be tested at the time of supply.</p>	
Please list any other thoughts, concerns, barriers or risks you see in implementation of the contract; or that may influence or prevent you to participate in the bidding for these contracts	